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BENJAMIN B. WAGNER 1 United States Attorney 2 HENRY Z. CARBAJAL III Assistant U.S. Attorney 3 2500 Tulare Street, Suite 4401 Fresno, California 93721 Telephone: (559) 497-4000 4 Facsimile: (559) 497-4099 5 Attorneys for the 6 United States of America 7 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 CASE NO.1:13-cr-00030 LJO-SKO 10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 11 Plaintiff, MEMORANDUM OF PLEA AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 11(c) OF THE 12 FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE 13  $\nabla$  . 14 Date: To Be Determined Time: To Be Determined 15 PRINCESA ALVARADO MATA, Place: Courtroom No. 4 aka Concepcion Torres, Hon. Lawrence J. O'Neill 16 aka Concepcion Torres Prado, 17 Defendant. 18 19

Pursuant to Rule 11(c) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States of America, by and through Benjamin B. Wagner, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of California, and Assistant United States Attorney HENRY Z. CARBAJAL III; and defendant PRINCESA ALVARADO MATA, aka Concepcion Torres Prado, and her attorney, BRIAN ANDRITCH, have agreed as follows:

#### 1. Scope of Agreement

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This document contains the complete Memorandum of Plea Agreement ("Plea Agreement") between the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California ("Government") and defendant

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regarding this case. This Plea Agreement is limited to the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and cannot bind any other federal, state, or local prosecuting, administrative, or regulatory authorities.

#### 2. Charges

(a) Defendant acknowledges that she has been charged in the Indictment as follows:

Theft of Public Money, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641, and

Criminal Forfeiture pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.

(b) The defendant further acknowledges that she has been charged in a single count Superseding Information as follows:

Misuse of a Social Security Number, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 400(a) (7)(B).

# 3. <u>Nature, Elements and Possible Defenses</u>

The defendant has read the charges against her contained in the Indictment and Superseding Information, and those charges have been fully explained to her by her attorney. Further, the defendant fully understands the nature and elements of the crime in the Superseding Information to which she is pleading guilty, together with the possible defenses thereto, and has discussed them with her attorney.

The elements of the crime of Misuse of a Social Security Number are:

First, the defendant represented for any purpose a particular social security account number to be hers;

Second, the representation was false; and

Third, the defendant acted with intent to deceive.

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# 4. Agreements by the Defendant

- (a) The defendant agrees that this Plea Agreement shall be filed with the court and become a part of the record of the case.
- (b) The defendant understands and agrees that she has a right to have her case proceed by way of indictment brought through a grand jury and hereby knowingly and intelligently waives her right to proceed by indictment and elects to have her case proceed by way of Superseding Information pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 7(b).
- (c) The defendant agrees to enter a plea of guilty to the essential elements of the charge contained in the Superseding Information, which charges her with Misuse of a Social Security Number, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)(B).
- (d) The defendant understands and agrees that she will not be allowed to withdraw her plea should the Court fail to follow the Government's sentencing recommendations.
- (e) The Defendant further acknowledges that her plea of guilty is voluntary and that no force, threats, promises or representations have been made to anybody, nor agreement reached, other than those set forth expressly in this Plea Agreement, to induce the defendant to plead guilty.
- (f) The defendant agrees to waive all defenses to the charge in the Superseding Information based on the statute of limitations for the offense charged therein.
- (g) The defendant agrees that the 2012 United States Sentencing Guidelines will be applied to her offense of conviction. The defendant waives any objection to application of the 2012 Sentencing Guidelines to her offense of conviction, including but not limited to

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any objection that application of the 2012 Sentencing Guidelines to her offense of conviction violates the Ex Post Facto Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

- (h) The defendant agrees that her base offense level for Misuse of a Social Security Number is six (6) pursuant to Section 2B1.1(a)(2) of the 2012 United States Sentencing Commission Guidelines Manual ("Sentencing Guidelines"), and an eight (8) level increase applies for loss more than \$70,000 but less than \$120,000 (U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(1)(E)).
- (i) Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives her

  Constitutional and statutory rights to appeal her plea, conviction, order of restitution, order of forfeiture and sentence. This waiver of appeal includes, but is not limited to, an express waiver of defendant's right to appeal her plea, conviction, order of restitution, order of forfeiture and sentence on any ground, including any appeal right conferred by 18 U.S.C. § 3742. Regardless of the sentence she receives, defendant gives up any right she may have to bring a post-appeal attack on her plea, conviction, order of restitution, order of forfeiture and sentence. She specifically agrees not to file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 or § 2241 attacking her plea, conviction, order of restitution or sentence.
- (j) The defendant agrees to not move for any downward adjustments in her offense levels under either Chapters Two, Three, Four or Five of the United States Sentencing Guidelines. The defendant also agrees not to move for a downward departure or variance of her sentence whether under the United States Sentencing Guidelines or the factors of 18 U.S.C. § 3553. Defendant understands and agrees that this agreement by her includes but is not limited to,

not moving for a downward departure of her offense level, criminal history category or criminal history points as defined by the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Additionally, the defendant agrees that the application of the guidelines to her case results in a reasonable sentence and that the defendant will not request that the court apply the sentencing factors under Section 3553 of Title 18, United States Code, to arrive at a sentence different than that called for under the guidelines. The defendant acknowledges that if the defendant requests or suggests in any manner a different sentence than what is called for under the guidelines that the government, at its sole discretion, may withdraw from this plea agreement and continue with its prosecution of the defendant as if this plea agreement were not entered.

- (k) The defendant recognizes that pleading guilty may have consequences with respect to her immigration status if she is not a citizen of the United States. Under federal law, a broad range of crimes are removable offenses, including the offense to which the defendant is pleading guilty. Removal and other immigration consequences are the subject of a separate proceeding, however, and the defendant understands that no one, including her attorney or the district court, can predict to a certainty the effect of conviction on the defendant's immigration status. The defendant nevertheless affirms that she wants to plead guilty regardless of any immigration consequences that her plea may entail, even if the consequence is her automatic removal from the United States.
- (L) Pursuant to Section 3663(a)(3) of Title 18, United States Code, the defendant agrees to pay the full amount of restitution as ordered by the court to all victims affected by this offense,

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including but not limited to the victims covered in the factual basis, victims covered in those counts to be dismissed as part of the plea agreement pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3663A(a)(3) and other victims as a result of the defendant's conduct for the offenses charged and in an amount determined by the court at sentencing, but no less than \$93,023.90.

- (m) Defendant agrees to make a full and complete disclosure of defendant's assets and financial condition, and will complete the United States Attorney's Office's "Authorization to Release Information" and "Financial Statement" within five (5) weeks from the entry of the defendant's change of plea. The defendant also agrees to have the court to enter an order to that effect.
- The defendant understands that the Court must consult the Federal Sentencing Guidelines (as promulgated by the Sentencing Commission pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3742 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 991-998, and as modified by <u>United</u> States v. Booker and United States v. Fanfan, 543 U.S. 220, 125 S. Ct. 738 (2005)), and must take them into account when determining a final sentence. The defendant understands that the Court will determine a non-binding and advisory guideline sentencing range for this case pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines. The defendant further understands that the Court will consider whether there is a basis for departure from the guideline sentencing range (either above or below the guideline sentencing range) because there exists an aggravating or mitigating circumstance of a kind, or to a degree, not adequately taken into consideration by the Sentencing Commission in formulating the Guidelines. The defendant further understands that the Court, after consultation and consideration of the Sentencing

Guidelines, must impose a sentence that is reasonable in light of the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

- (o) Defendant agrees to waive all rights under the "Hyde Amendment," Pub. L. No. 105-109, § 617, 111 Stat. 2519 (1997), to recover attorneys' fees or other litigation expenses in connection with the investigation and prosecution of all charges in the above-captioned matter and of any related allegations (including without limitation any charges to be dismissed pursuant to this Plea Agreement and any charges previously dismissed).
  - 5. Agreements by the Government
- (a) The government will recommend a two-level reduction (if the offense level is less than 16) or a three-level reduction (if the offense level reaches 16) in the computation of the defendant's offense level if the defendant clearly demonstrates acceptance of responsibility for her conduct as defined in Section 3E1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines.
- (b) The government agrees that the defendant's base offense level for Misuse of a Social Security Number is six (6) pursuant to Section 2B1.1(a)(2) of the 2012 United States Sentencing Commission Guidelines Manual ("Sentencing Guidelines"), and an eight (8) level increase applies for loss more than \$70,000 but less than \$120,000 (U.S.S.G.  $\S$  2B1.1(b)(1)(E)).
- (c) If the defendant's guideline range, after all adjustments, falls within:
- i. Zone A of the Sentencing Table, then the government agrees to recommend that the defendant be sentenced to imprisonment for the term of imprisonment spent in custody, determined as of the date of sentencing;

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recommend that the defendant be sentenced to imprisonment for the term spent in custody, as determined as of the date of sentencing, or the low end of the applicable guideline range, whichever is greater; or iii. Zone C of the Sentencing Table, then the government will

Zone B of the Sentencing Table, then the government will

- recommend that the defendant be sentenced to imprisonment for half of defendant's minimum term with a term of supervised release which includes the remainder of the minimum term served in home detention, to be paid by the defendant; or
- Zone D of the Sentencing Table, then the government will recommend that the defendant be sentenced to imprisonment at the low end of the applicable guideline range.
- The defendant acknowledges and understands that the government makes no other representations to her regarding fines, whether any other specific offense characteristics apply to her conduct, her criminal history under Chapter Four or whether additional enhancements or reductions under Chapters Two, Three or Five of the United States Sentencing Guidelines apply and defendant understands that the government is free to comment and to make recommendations to the court and the probation officer regarding those matters.
- The government will dismiss the pending indictment against the defendant at the time of sentencing.

#### 6. Factual Basis

The defendant will plead guilty because she is in fact guilty of the crime set forth in the Superseding Information. The defendant also agrees that the following are the facts of this case, although

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she acknowledges that, as to other facts, the parties may disagree:

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On or about December 1999, within the State and Eastern District of California, defendant PRINCESA ALVARADO MATA, in a matter within the jurisdiction of the United States Social Security Administration, for the purpose of obtaining something of value and for other purposes, and with the intent to deceive, falsely represented in a Social Security disability insurance benefits application that her Social Security account number was xxx-xx-4313, when in fact, as defendant well knew, Social Security account number xxx-xx-4313 was not assigned to the defendant, all in violation of 42 U.S.C. Section 408(a)(7)(B).

On or about December 1999, the defendant PRINCESA ALVARADO MATA completed and submitted an application for Social Security disability insurance (SSDI) benefits to the Social Security Administration (SSA). As an applicant for and recipient of SSDI benefits payments, the defendant was required to truthfully report her identity and social security number at the inception of her disability claim. In her December 1999 benefits application, the defendant falsely represented that she was Concepcion Torres, and used Concepcion Torres' name, date of birth and Social Security number xxx-xx-4313 to apply for and receive SSDI benefits. The defendant provided these representations with the intent to deceive SSA, knowing all the while that such statements were materially false in that she assumed the identity of Concepcion Torres, was not actually Concepcion Torres and that Social Security number xxx-xx-4313 was not issued to her. Had MATA disclosed she was applying for and receiving SSDI benefits under a false identity and/or Social Security number that did not belong to her, SSA would not have paid or continued to pay SSDI benefits to the defendant.

The defendant began receiving SSA Title II Disability Insurance benefits (SSDI) in approximately July 2000 under the identity of Concepcion Torres of Texas with Social Security number xxx-xx-4313, born August 1949, for a primary disability of disorder of muscle, ligament and/or fascia. As of November 2009, the defendant was receiving SSDI benefits in the amount of approximately \$871.00 per month based on her disability claim. The SSDI benefits were received via check mailed from SSA to the defendant's home in Bakersfield, California. The defendant would obtain the SSDI benefit checks at her home in Bakersfield, California each month and cash the benefit checks at financial institutions and other businesses in the area of Bakersfield, california.

Between July 2000 and November 2009, overpayments of Title II SSDI benefits to the defendant totaled approximately \$93,023.90. Between July 2000 and November 2009, the defendant received approximately \$93,023.90 in Title II

Social Security funds by misrepresenting her identity and Social Security number in order to obtain the Title II Social Security funds to which the defendant knew she was not entitled under the identity of Concepcion Torres.

## 7. <u>Potential Sentence</u>

The following is the maximum potential sentence which the defendant faces on Count One:

(a) Imprisonment.

Maximum: Five (5) years.

(b) Fine.

Maximum: Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00).

- (c) Both such fine and imprisonment.
- (d) Restitution- Mandatory
- (e) Term of Supervised Release:

Maximum: Three (3) years.

(Should the defendant violate any of the terms of her supervised release, she can be returned to prison for the period of supervised release actually imposed by the Court or two (2) years, whichever is less.)

(f) Penalty Assessment.

Mandatory: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

### 8. Waiver of Rights

Defendant understands that by pleading guilty she surrenders certain rights, including the following:

(a) If defendant persisted in a plea of not guilty to the charges against her, she would have the right to a public and speedy trial. The trial could be either a jury trial or a trial by a judge sitting without a jury. Defendant has a right to a jury trial. However, in order that the trial be conducted by the judge sitting without a jury, defendant, the government and the judge all must agree that the trial be conducted by the judge without a jury.

- (b) If the trial were a jury trial, the jury would be composed of twelve lay persons selected at random. Defendant and her attorney would have a say in who the jurors would be by removing prospective jurors for cause where actual bias or other disqualification is shown, or without cause by exercising peremptory challenges. The jury would have to agree unanimously before it could return a verdict of either guilty or not guilty. The jury would be instructed that defendant is presumed innocent and that it could not convict her unless, after hearing all the evidence, it was persuaded of her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
- (c) If the trial were held before a judge without a jury, the judge would find the facts and determine, after hearing all the evidence, whether or not he was persuaded of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
- (d) At a trial, whether by a jury or a judge, the government would be required to present its witnesses and other evidence against defendant. Defendant would be able to confront those government witnesses and her attorney would be able to cross-examine them. In turn, defendant could present witnesses and other evidence on her own behalf. If the witnesses for defendant would not appear voluntarily, she could require their attendance through the subpoena power of the Court. At trial, the defendant would also have the right to assistance of legal counsel. If she could not afford legal counsel, one would be appointed for her by the court at no expense to her.
- (e) At a trial, defendant would have a privilege against self-incrimination so that she could decline to testify, and no inference of guilt could be drawn from this refusal to testify.

the underlying charges, or reduce or set aside her sentence on any count(s) to which she is pleading guilty, the Government shall have the right (1) to prosecute defendant on any and all count(s) to which she pleaded guilty, and (2) to file any new charges that would otherwise be barred by this Plea Agreement. The decision to pursue any or all of these options is solely in the discretion of the Government. By signing this Plea Agreement, the defendant agrees to waive any objections, motions, and defenses she might have to the Government's decision. Defendant specifically agrees not to raise any objections based on the passage of time with respect to such counts including, but not limited to, any statutes of limitation or any objections based on the Speedy Trial Act or the Speedy Trial Clause of the Sixth Amendment.

Defendant understands that by pleading guilty she is waiving all of the rights set forth above and defendant's attorney has explained those rights to her and the consequences of her waiver of those rights.

#### 9. Right to Counsel

The defendant understands that she has a right to counsel throughout her case from her initial appearance through her trial or guilty plea, or any dismissal of the case against her, and through and including any sentencing. If not for the waiver of appeal rights in this Plea Agreement, the defendant would also have a right to counsel on a direct appeal in her case. The defendant understands that the right to counsel includes the provision of defense counsel through the Court if the defendant cannot afford to hire counsel.

# 10. Questions by Court

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Defendant understands that if the Court questions her under oath, on the record and in the presence of counsel, about the offense to which she has pleaded guilty, her answers, if false, may later be used against her in a prosecution for perjury.

### 11. Entire Plea Agreement

This plea of guilty is freely and voluntarily made and not the result of force or threats or of promises apart from those set forth in this plea agreement. There have been no representations or promises from anyone as to what sentence this Court will impose.

Other than this Plea Agreement, no agreement, understanding, promise, or condition between the government and the defendant exists, nor will such agreement, understanding, promise, or condition exist unless it is committed to writing and signed by the defendant, counsel for the defendant, and counsel for the United States.

# 12. <u>Court not a Party</u>

It is understood by the parties that the Court is not a party to this Plea Agreement. Sentencing is a matter solely within the discretion of the Court, the Court is under no obligation to accept any recommendations made by the government, and the Court may in its discretion impose any sentence it deems appropriate up to and including the statutory maximum stated in this Plea Agreement. Further, in making its sentencing decision, the Court may take into consideration any and all facts and circumstances concerning the criminal activities of defendant, including activities which may not have been charged in the Indictment.

If the Court should impose any sentence up to the maximum established by the statute, the defendant cannot, for that reason alone, withdraw her guilty plea, and she will remain bound to fulfill

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all of the obligations under this Plea Agreement. The defendant understands that neither the prosecutor, defense counsel, nor the Court can make a binding prediction or promise regarding the sentence he will receive.

#### 13. Presentence Report

Defendant understands that the United States Probation Office is not a party to this agreement and will conduct an independent investigation of defendant's activities and her background. It will then prepare a presentence report which it will submit to the Court as its independent sentencing recommendation. In addition, the government will fully apprise the Probation Office, as well as the Court, of the full and true nature, scope and extent of the defendant's criminal activities, including information on her background and criminal history.

Dated:

By:

Assistant U.S. Attorney

United States Attorney

BENJAMIN B. WAGNER

Dated:

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RINCESA ALVARADO MATA, aka Concepcion Torres

Defendant

Dated:

ANDRATICH

Attorney for Defendant

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Dated:

None \$100758

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